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FAX 703-872-9306

For: Douglas D. Watts

Re: Application # 10/815,134

Thank you for not finalizing your objections; I am impressed that your office welcomes comment.

My comments:

US 3,780,780 Pettigrew et al

This is indeed, a patent of a dado blade, a very special one, which varies the diameter of the blade, and is intended for particular needs. The author points out that the ordinary dado blade has been known for many years and has been widely used in the woodworking industry for precise and smooth cuts.

I am not claiming to have invented the dado blade, but I do indeed use it in my application.

US 5,123,430 Davidovitz, Zvi

This patent is similar to many others I have read, in that it incorporates a rotating blade; it differs from the others, essentially, only in that the nail being cut is inserted into a slot.

If you picture its use for toenails, its impracticality for the person being trimmed becomes more noticeable. The device has to be held upside down so the action cannot reliably be guided. A lack of extended housing requires the user to bend down towards the foot, a difficult task for the elderly or infirm. Even a nurse or assistant would have difficulty with it, because each toe would have to be held separately so the nail could be inserted into the slot.

The blade described in this patent is not at all a dado blade;

CAN 670,052 Marta Klavins

This device is not at all useable by the person being trimmed; a nurse or assistant is required.

That it requires external power and might tend to vibrate because of the bend in the flexible drive are minor points but indicate poor design.

It is intended for tough toenails, but my device smoothly, easily, cuts even plastic credit cards, which are much tougher than any toenail.

The blade described in this patent is not at all a dado blade; it is merely a typical circular blade as found on standard Dremel battery powered tools.

My application was done by an attorney who is far more knowledgeable of the process than I, but I have no qualms about claims 1-18 being rejected.

But claim 19 is surely unique.

There are already in existence, gravity operated switches.

There are extended housings used in many devices.

There are indeed dado blades in wide use.

But, my application is the only one to present an automatically operated toenail cutter in an extended housing that incorporates a dado blade.

Its design is unique.

The device is easy to position and use.

It is actually enjoyable to use.

The dado blade provides a smooth cut, much as is experienced in fine cabinetmaking.

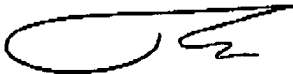
The device can be operated by the obese, the elderly, those with bad backs or arthritic hands, and even the blind can use it, because its facility permits its use by feel.

Figure 7 in my application says it all. No other device permits such convenience. No other device makes toenail cutting pleasurable.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment, and if suggested, I can rephrase the wording of my claim.

I'll try calling tomorrow.

Happy turkey.



Roy Martin
97 French's Point
Glenburn ME 04401
(207) 942-3996
xhandsome@midmaine.com